

# Egremont News

Issue 78 November, 2014

## **Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:**

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a bimonthly basis by the Selectmen® Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter.

\*

## Selectmen:

The tax rate for FY 2015 is \$8.88, a \$.62 increase over the FY 2014 rate of \$8.26. The reasons for this are:

Our deficits last year were higher than the prior year ó by about \$20,000. Included was a snow & ice expenses deficit and an overlay deficit.

Our Allowance for abatements is higher this year, presumably because there was an overlay deficit (our allowance for abatements) last year. These funds are put aside to cover tax amounts abated to tax payers.

Cherry Sheet receipts are lower ó by over \$46,000.

Estimated receipts were lower. I believe this is due to issuing fewer permits and licenses and lower interest gained on the Townøs bank accounts.

We used less free cash and other available funds at the town meeting. \$166,000 less, which helped to contribute to a total estimated receipts and other revenue sources that is about \$194,000 lower. We should be able to use more savings in the upcoming year to help offset this increase. Our current free cash certification is \$341,974. These are funds that voters can use for town expenses at upcoming town meetings.

The total appropriations at this year town meeting was less than \$60,000 over last year, but with the decrease in the use of other funds we were required to raise almost \$225,000 more.

Real Estate values and commercial values were almost level ó about a \$300,000 aggregate increase between them but that was offset in part by a decrease of \$200,000 in Personal Property so our total valuation by class is \$464,000 lower.

The Board has asked our legislators to help in any way they can with the proposed electricity

rate increases that are being reported in the local newspapers. Our Sustainability Coordinator is following up on ways the Town and its residents may save money this coming winter. More information is contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

There is now public Wi-Fi at Town Hall under toepublic. No password is required.

Reminder: Winter is approaching quickly. Parking along town roads is banned from November 15 to April 15 each year. Your vehicle will be towed if left parked along any town road.

## **ECO-TIP**

Now that mice are moving indoors again, we look for ways to fight back. d-Conøs blood thinner finds its way into owls and hawks, which then die. If you MUST use d-Con, bury the critter bodies so that birds wonøt find them.

# JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION ON THE LAST MILE BROADBAND SOLUTION

The Western Mass. legislative delegation met with representatives from the Franklin Council of Governments (FRCOG), the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTechCollaborative, and WiredWest to discuss the next phase of the Last Mile Solution to secure universal high speed internet access to unserved and underserved communities. This collaborative discussion generated a plan and timetable which will begin with regional open meetings held in the coming months by these partners. Through these meetings information and data will be shared with residents and local officials, while feedback is gathered and options are evaluated. The goal will be for each town to consider and adopt a broadband strategy

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specific to their individual need during their Annual or Special Town Meeting in the Spring.

Senators Benjamin Downing, Steven Brewer, and Representatives Steve Kulik, Paul Mark, Denise Andrews, Peter Kocot, Anne Gobi, and Smitty Pignatelli participated in today@s discussion, which was hosted by Senator Stan Rosenberg at the Massachusetts State House,

õToday all of the partners in the Last Mile initiative made great progress in advancing our goal of universal broadband availability in all of our communities,ö said Representative Steve Kulik.

õFRCOG is pleased to work as MBIøs outreach arm in conjunction with WiredWest,ö commented Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director of Franklin Regional Council of Governments. õThe role of FRCOG is to help towns understand their options and facilitate a municipal and regional Last Mile Solution.ö

õThe best way forward to close the connectivity gap is through regional cooperation,ö said Philip Holahan, Interim Director of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MBI). õWe look forward to partnering with the Legislature, Patrick Administration, and community leaders like the Franklin Regional Council of Governments and WiredWest to pursue locallydriven, successful Last Mile broadband connectivity solutions.ö

õEach organization brings unique and critical assets to the Last Mile effort and WiredWest is very pleased with this new collaboration,ö said Monica Webb, Chair WiredWest. õWe are eager to bring our community perspective, extensive last mile planning, and governance capabilities to the group effort to accelerate the deployment of high-capacity broadband in the unserved towns.ö

õTodayøs meeting was another step in closing the digital divide. Working together the MBI, WiredWest, FRCOG, and Western Mass. legislators look forward to maximizing the impact of the \$50 million authorized in the Information Technology bond bill. We have more work to do, but we will be doing it all together, with common purpose,ö said Senator Downing.

#### **ECO-TIP**

Knit sweaters dongt have to be dry-cleaned. Buy a sweater wash at Wonderful Things in GB (the owner is a wealth of info), and use cold water and the gentlest machine setting. Yought save money, and the sweaters will smell cleaner and be cleaner.

## **Council on Aging:**

The Egremont Council on Aging would like to invite you to the Egremont Village Inn in South Egremont on Wednesday, November 5th at 12:00 noon for a light lunch and movie. We will be showing õTop Hatö, the latest in our afternoon movie event series. There is no charge for the movie. A light lunch before the movie consisting of soup, salad and bread will be available. A \$5 donation would be appreciated. Please RSVP no later than Monday, November 3 at 3:00pm to the Town Hall, 528-0182, Ext. 17, and let us know that you are coming. The Council on Aging is hosting these movies the first Wednesday of the month at noon. The next one is scheduled for December 3. The program will continue in January, February and March.

## **Planning Board:**

The Planning Board has been busy finalizing the medical marijuana overlay district bylaw, which will provide planning guidance to state licensed medical marijuana dispensariesô where they can be located and what materials must be provided to the Town of Egremont for a special permit to be issued. The planning board has said farewell to former Chair, Janis Martinson Sagarin, and welcomed new board member Bill Bodinger.

The planning board will host an informational meeting on November 12 at Town Hall to present the medical marijuana overlay district bylaw and answer questions for interested residents. Stay tuned for a scheduled public hearing, followed by a special town vote in which the community will vote to adopt the new zoning bylaw or not.

The board looks forward to refocusing its time and energy on new village and rural district zoning language.

## **Emergency Management:**

The Town of Egremont is able to make announcements to townspeople by way of telephone and email. There are several messages that may be sent to you: street closures, water issues, meetings and other general informational topics may utilize the system. In an emergency, the system is set up to call all of the numbers you have listed with the Town, along with any email addresses you have registered in the system. It is also able to send text messages.

The Town's telephone alert system works by detecting a voice when you answer the phone. After you pick up the phone and say hello, there may be a second or two of 'dead air'. The system will wait after you answer in order to determine if there is an answering machine on the line. The message will start after that.

In preparation for colder weather and winter storms, we will be sending a test call to all contacts on Saturday November 8 at 10:00 AM. If you do not receive the call, or would like to add other numbers or email addresses, please call or email us with that information.

If you wish, the system can send an email or text message to you. It can also call your cell phone or VOIP type telephone (through your television or computer if you have that service).

The important thing to know is that you must register those means of contact with the Town; the system only has access to regular listed landline telephone numbers; it cannot detect unlisted numbers. It also cannot get VOIP or cell phone numbers, nor can it determine email addresses. Those must be manually entered into the system.

If you would like to change or add your information into the system, please email or call us with the pertinent contact numbers and email addresses.

If you have any questions about the alert system, please drop us an email or call us and we will be happy to answer them.

Email: <u>wbrinker@egremont-ma.gov</u> Phone: 413 528-0182 ext 17

#### **ECO-TIP**

For free disposal of <u>any</u> TV sets, take them to Best Buy in Pittsfield. The store will send someone out to the curb to pick it up for you!

## **Sustainability Coordinator:**

By now many of you have heard about National Gridøs rate hike. It will increase the current cost of your electric supply from 8¢ a kilowatt hour to 16¢. This has led folks to wonder why the power company is doing this, how much this will cost the average homeowner and whatøs available to those looking for less expensive options.

As to why supply rates will be going up so dramatically, NatGrid has stated it is based on market projections of the supply and winter demand of natural gas. NatGrid does not produce energy ó they purchase power from power generators and deliver it to your home. When markets are uncertain and demand is high this is reflected in their rates to their customers.

As to how much this will cost the average homeowner itos best to think of your bill as two separate bills: one being the distribution of power, the other being the supply. The supply portion is the only area that will see the rate increase and NatGrid is saying this winter the average homeowner could see an increase of about \$35 per month over last year.

Now as to ways to address this increase, the simplest approach is to use less electricity. Please refer to the Green Committee article in this newsletter for tips on reducing electricity consumption.

Homeowners can purchase their electric supply from a company other than NatGrid. And if you want to support more production of electricity from renewable sources (solar, biomass, hydro, wind, etc.) you can choose that too. Here is a list from the Mass DOER website of approved energy suppliers in the region:

## http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/Licenses.

If you change your electric supplier be aware of the following: because supply rates fluctuate if you make the switch you may or may not actually save money. You may save at first, but depending on the conditions of your contract, that intro rate could be a teaser to get you to sign on. NatGrid could lower their rates and you would be bound to the terms of your contract to your new supplier. It is important to read your contract thoroughly to understand what you are signing into. Also understand even if you go with a different supplier you will continue to get a bill from NatGrid for the distribution of power through their electric lines into your home.

Town officials are now gathering information on a town-wide electric supply purchase in the hopes of bulk purchasing discounts. If we as a town pursue this course of action it will need approval at a town meeting and further approval from two state agencies. In other words this is not in the foreseeable future to address the rate hikes this winter. This scenario comes with similar

concerns mentioned earlier: depending on the contract, energy supply and energy rates savings may or not materialize because of fluctuating market prices. Additionally it would not be available to residents who have signed into a contract with another supply company, unless your contract allows you to cancel at any time.

And finally, to those who may have difficulty paying their electric bill due to the coming rate hikes NatGrid offers information on payment plans and financial assistance programs on their website <a href="www.nationalgridus.com">www.nationalgridus.com</a>. Their customer service toll-free number is 1/800/322-3223.

## **Egremont Green Committee:**

As we hear of rate increases, even as the price of oil drops (explain that one NatGrid), the Green Committee would like to remind you that turning off lights and lowering wattage can go a long way to cut consumption, and bills.

If you are not in the room, turn lights off. When you leave the house, turn everything off.

Put your tv, kitchen appliances, and computer on power strips. Unless used frequently these õvampiresö take power even when not in use. Something as simple as turning them off at night can make a difference.

Consider updating old electric appliances like refrigerators and hot water heaters. New õEnergy Starö appliances use a fraction of the power they once did.

If you havenot already done so have a home energy assessment. Give CET a call at 413/445-4556 to register for an appointment.

Check your bulbs. New energy efficient bulbs can help. As can lowering your wattage.

Outdoors: With daylight saving time starting soon, longer darker evenings will arrive. Check your outdoor fixtures. Make sure the light is directed down. Not only can you not light the heavens, but your light leakage also pollutes your neighbor¢s yard. Check your wattage outside as well. A low light actually allows you to see better in the dark.

As darkness comes earlier, do what you can to avoid excessive outdoor lighting. Motion detectors are a good solution. Get info on light pollution from the International Dark Sky website (www.darksky.org)

## Water Department:

The Water Commission has completed the transition to the new billing system. Usage now reflects actual water use from actual meter readings. Because of this, the rate structure has been realigned. Fees are now based on a more realistic usage figure, and the rate structure reflects increments of every three thousand gallons of use. Based on research and testing available, the average person in the western New England/eastern New York area consumes approximately one hundred gallons of water per day. A two-person household in the Northeast uses approximately 150 to 200 gallons of water per day, or a use of five to six thousand gallons per month.

The billing is broken down into water usage and debt service; debt service is the portion of your bill which goes toward paying off the bond.

The Water Department tries to read meters on the second or third day of the month to provide a consistent billing period. After the meters are read, the information is imported into our billing system; this process takes a few more days to complete in order to generate the bills and get them into the mail.

Because of more accurate readings, you will notice an increase in water usage. Under the previous rate structure, water use was billed at an amount that increased for every thousand gallons used. Based on that old structure, three thousand gallons would have been billed at \$52.59 plus the debt service fee of \$40, bringing the minimum charge to \$92.59. Realizing that a bill for that amount would be a large increase, the Commissioners restructured the rates to reflect the accurate use figures. The rate structure now is based on the average usage per household, and reflects that use in three thousand gallon increments. As information on use is reviewed, the Commissioners will review the rate structure to be certain that it remains equitable and accurate.

As you can see below, even a small drip can add a large amount of water usage:

# Water costs money... Don't Waste it!

A dripping faucet or fixture can waste 3 gallons a day ...total of 1095 gallons a year

# Conserve Water & Save Money!



TOWN OF EGREMONT

Water Department

P.O. Box 681 South Egremont, MA 01258-0681 413 528-0182 ext 17

Waste Per Quarter at 60 PSI Water Pressure

	Diameter of Stream	Gallons	Cubic Feet
)	1/4" drip	1,181,500	158,000
$\bigcirc$	3/16" drip	666,000	89,031
	1/8" drip	296,000	39,400
0	1/16" drip	74,000	9,850

A continuous leak from a hole this size would, over a three month period, waste water in the amounts shown above.

Please take note: in accordance with state law, interest at the rate of one per cent per month will be added to past due accounts beginning January 1, 2015.

If you have any questions about your bill or the Water Department in general, please call the Water Department Clerk at 528-0182 ext. 17.

#### **Board of Health:**

Views on the use and sale of tobacco products have changed considerably over the years. It wasnot that long ago when smoking was permitted in restaurants, airplanes and other public places. In 2002 the Egremont Board of Health, upon the recommendation of leading medical professionals, joined other cities and towns in Massachusetts and issued a local regulation prohibiting smoking in indoor places. This was done a year before it became a state law. At that time this action was met with some controversy ó again, views have certainly changed.

The tobacco industry continues to look for ways to market their products to future smokers. The latest õnewö thing is e-cigarettes, electronic devices which provide a smokeless vapor of liquid nicotine. Because they are not technically cigarettes they are exempt from current tobacco laws unless the state or a local health department issues a regulation on the matter.

The evidence is clear: the use of tobacco products causes disease and negative health affects. For this reason the Board of Health has begun reviewing the townow local tobacco regulations with

special attention to including e-cigarettes and other õnicotine delivery productsö into a new local regulation. The board is also looking into joining 80 towns across the Commonwealth who have already done so, to increase the age to purchase tobacco and nicotine delivery products to 21. As most tobacco users start when they are young the rational behind increasing the age to purchase these products is to prevent future smokers. This approach worked when the legal age to purchase alcohol was raised to 21. The number of alcohol related driving casualties immediately decreased when the legal age was raised. Common sense leads us to believe raising the age to purchase tobacco products will reduce the number of those addicted to nicotine and become lifetime smokers.

Discussions on the topic of updating the town tobacco regulations are currently taking place in regular Board of Health meetings. We welcome the public to attend our meetings, which are usually the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 9:00 am in Town Hall, join in the discussion and comment. You can also submit a comment or ask a question via email to <a href="mailto:jhaas@egremont-ma.gov">jhaas@egremont-ma.gov</a>. A date for a public hearing on the subject has yet to be set, but when it is the public will be notified via newspaper, postings and announcements. Again, all comments are welcome and will be considered before the board takes any official action.

## **Board of Assessors:**

Chapter Land: Thank you all who have Chapter Land, that is, lands classified and taxed according to Chapter 61 [Forest Land], Chapter 61A [Agricultural/Horticultural Land], and Chapter 61B [Recreational Land] for getting your applications in on time and complete. We appreciate your efforts.

**Tax Rate:** The tax rate for fiscal 2015 has been set and approved by the Department of Revenue. The tax rate will be \$8.88 per thousand of value.

**Business owners:** If you are opening or closing a business please be sure to notify the Assessorsø office.

**Abatements:** Real Estate Tax bills will be sent out in early January. Property owners have 30 days after the issue date of the bill to apply for an abatement. This date is on the bill and is usually January 1.

**Form of List** / **Personal Property**. õForm of Listö for business owners (and second home owners every three

years) are used to declare Personal Property subject to taxation by the Town. Personal property includes furniture, fixtures, equipment, and machinery used in the conduct of business or in a inon-primaryø home. These forms will be sent out in early December.

Changes of Mailing Address: Please request a <u>Change of Address Form</u> when you want to officially change your address. These forms can be found at the Assessors Office. In the future when we receive any request for an address change in any other format we will send you a Change of Address Form. Thank you for your attention to this.

The charge for **Abutters Lists** that are prepared by the Assessors Office is \$1.00 per parcel reported.

If you have any questions please contact the Assessorsøoffice at 528-0182, Ext. 14. Our Town Hall office hours are Monday 7-8:30; Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 or email us at assessors@egremont-ma.gov.

## **Fire Department:**

The Department.					
Time	date	call #	location		
	type				
9:39 PM	08/22/14	102	Hillsdale		
Rd.	Medical				
3:00 AM	08/23/14	103	Partridge		
Dr.	Medical				
1:24 PM	08/24/14	104	Hill top		
	Alarm False				
12:46 PM	08/30/14	105	Bash Bish		
Falls M					
W	ashington				
8:48 AM	08/31/14	106	Partridge		
Dr.	Medical				
3:02 AM	09/01/14	107	Partridge		
Dr.	Medical				
9:28 AM	09/01/14	108	Ridge Rd.		
	Medical				
3:44 PM	09/03/14	109	Hillsdale		
Rd	Medical				
4:20 PM	09/03/14	110	Lake Side		
Dr.	Structure Fire				
9:02 AM	09/04/14	111	Lake Side		
Dr.	Medical				
6:08 PM	09/04/14				
Rd.	<b>Motor Vehicle Accident</b>				
1:15 PM	09/05/14	113	Bash Bish		
Falls Mt	Medical				
Washington					

10:57 PM	09/07/14	114	Creamery				
Rd.	d. Medical						
8:30 AM	09/08/14	115	Farm Ln.				
	Alarm						
11:45 AM	09/08/14	116	Boice Rd.				
Medical							
10:28 AM	09/20/14	117	Egremont				
Plain Rd.	Medica	al					
11:22 AM	09/20/14	118	Under				
Mountain Rd.	Medica	al					
12:29 PM	09/21/14	119	Main St.				
	Auto leaking Fuel						
3:35 PM	09/25/14	120	<b>Baldwin Hill</b>				
N-S	Medical						
7:14 PM	09/27/14	121	Jug End				
	Search		· ··· <b>g</b> —				
8:01 PM	09/27/14	122	Hillsdale Rd.				
0.011111	Alarm		11111044110 1140				
5:55 AM	09/28/14	123	Hillsdale Rd.				
Motor Vehicle Accident							
1:20 PM			ont Plain Rd.				
1.20 1 1/1	Medical	Egrem	ont I min itu.				
12:12 PM	10/2/14 125	Mounts	ain Rd. MT				
12.12 1 141	Alarm	Modific	im Ku. W. I				
Washington	7 Clair III						
12:15 PM	10/6/14 126	Raldwi	n Hill E/W				
12,13 1 141	Alarm	Daiuwi	11 11111 12/ 44				
1:48 PM	10/8/14 127	Roldwi	n Hill N/S				
1.40 1 WI	Medical	Daiuwi	11 11111 14/5				
3:47 PM	10/10/14	128	Hillsdale Rd.				
3.4/ FNI	Medica		minsuale Ku.				
12:04 PM	10/11/14	-	Cusamam Dd				
12:04 PM		129	Creamery Rd.				
2.55.435	Alarm	120	CI (IID)				
3:55 AM	10/14/14	130	Shuntoll Rd.				
11 20 135	Medica		TT:11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1				
11:30 AM	10/14/14	131	Hillsdale Rd.				
0.45.55	Alarm						
9:37 PM	10/16/14	132	West St. Mt				
Alarm							
Washington							
10:47 AM	10/17/14	133	Shun Toll Rd.				
Medical							

The Egremont Fire Department would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who supported our annual fund raising steak dinner on Sunday 10/19. We hope that everyone enjoyed the dinner as much as we enjoyed putting it on.

The Egremont Fire Department spends most Tuesday evenings and some weekends training. In the past 10 months we have participated in training for tanker shuttle operations, driver training, ladders, air packs, wall breaching, nozzle and pump operations, and firefighting foam application.

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We are always looking for new members. If you have any interest in becoming a member you are welcome to join us any Tuesday evening at 7pm at either firehouse.

Just a reminder to residents that have alarm systems; If the Egremont Fire Department responds to an alarm at your residence and, if no key or key holder is available, by policy the Fire Department will gain entry by the least damaging method. We must gain access within 5 minutes of arrival. Forcible entry is our least preferred option as damage is unavoidable, but will be used if necessary. Homeowners can avoid damage at the point of entry by installing a lock box. Information on purchasing a Lock boxes can be obtained through town hall. For further information call Egremont Town Hall.

Please make sure you have your 911 house number clearly posted. The town® bylaw requires numbers which are reflective, at least 3", and are able to be seen from both directions. If you wish to order a 911 plate you may do so at Town Hall for a minimal fee of \$20. Please make sure that your number remains visible. Check it seasonally to make sure tree and shrub growth are not covering it.

## **Historical Commission:**

This being the last newsletter of 2014, the Commission would like to thank all of those people who have given donations to the Townøs archives this year. As we work to strengthen our holdings and sustain the Townøs historic relics, your support is essential. This is your history and we are very grateful to those who made the decision to share with us some of their documents and family objects. We are now working toward our third grant from the Massachusettsø State Historical Records Advisory Board to safely house and present these treasures of the Town in a secure way.

The Commission is pleased to announce that our 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations came off without a hitch and everyone had a great time. We would like to especially thank our commission member Jim Parrish for his talk on Major Hugh Smiley with wonderful visual support from his and Gary Leveilless amazing collections of images of Egremont and the region. The newly refurbished archives havenst seen this much action since the last Grange dance. We hosted nearly 30 people for our first lecture. If you are looking for

a great Christmas present, Garyøs new book can be purchased at the Book Loft, and the Archives Room. The archives are open the first Saturday of every month from 9 to noon, or by appointment.

Finding our first showcase of the new space so well attended, we do anticipate having more talks on topics of historic interest next year, and hosting more scanning days for family photos and letters that carry our townøs history forward. We all thank you for your support.

## **Agricultural Commission:**

The Egremont Agricultural Commission said good bye to our long-time president, David Sheldon. He retired his position as president which he has held since the Commission inception. We will miss him immensely but wish him a wonderful retirement. Carla Turner took on his position as president and we welcome new select board appointed member Andre Vanko. Andre is the co-owner of Sweetwater Farm Bed And Breakfast.

We would like to remind our community that animals, a blessing to all of us, are not necessarily cherished by neighbors. The saying õgood fences make good neighborsö continues to hold true here in Egremont. Please make sure that all animals are confined to your personal property. Also should there be an issue with stray animals John Springstube of Alford is Egremontøs animal control officer. John deals with stray dogs, animal complaints and wildlife questions. John can be reached via phone, 232-7038, Mary at town hall, 528-0182 ext 10 or by calling Carla Turner, 528-5710.

Harvest season is coming to a close. Most farmersø markets are packing up until the spring, but check out berkshiregrown.org for information on the winter markets to be held at Monument Valley Middle School on November 22, December 13, January 17 and February 14th. Enjoy the end of autumn and the coming winter. We at the Agricultural Commission thank you for supporting your local farmers. You are who make the Berkshires the best place on earth to farm.

### **Cultural Council:**

There will be a pastel workshop led by Greg Majchack at the North Egremont Fire Station on Saturday, November 15, from 11am to 1pm. For more information, please contact Robin Goldberg, 528-2228.

# First Congregational Church:

First Congregational Church of South Egremont will hold a Ham Dinner and Chinese Auction November 8 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. Adults \$12 and children ages 5 through 10, \$5.

Christmas Eve the First Congregational Church will hold its Traditional Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. All in the community are invited to attend.

## **Holiday Trees:**

The November issue of the Newsletter reminds us that winter holidays are not far away. The Holiday Tree Team will be gearing up for our annual November installation over Thanksgiving week end.

If you would like to help, or have questions, please call Susan Bachelder 528 6505.

#### **ECO-TIP**

Textiles (clothing, bed accessories, etc.) make up 5% of trash. Goodwill re-sells clothing when possible, and they recycle what canot be resold. The Goodwill truck is in front of Town Hall once a month. Get a tax slip for your donations.

## Meeting schedule:

Meeting regularly. Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official. Archives Room - First Saturday 9-noon or by appointment

Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon & by appointment

Council on Aging - Third Thursday of each month at 3pm. Other times as needed.

Board of Health - Monday- 8am to 1pm, Tuesday 8:30am to 12pm & 12:30 to 2:30pm, Wednesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm. Meetings - Thursdays as posted 9am to 11am

Board of Selectmen - Meetings every other Monday evenings 7pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.

Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm. Other times and inspections by appointment Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00pm

Finance Committee - Wednesdays 5:30pm January

through April. Other times as needed. Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm & Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474 Planning Board - Second & Fourth Monday 7:30pm School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm Mt. Everett High School Library

Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm Town Clerk - Every other Tuesday evenings 6pm-8pm, Tuesday mornings 9am to 12noon or by appointment Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm,

Saturday 8am to 3pm, Sunday 12noon to 4pm Water Department - Meetings second Thursday 4:30pm at Town Hall Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed To reach a board member or to leave a message please call the Town Hall 528-0182.

## **Business listings:**

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall.

Prospect Lake Park and Campground -

camping, swimming

413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com

www.prospectlakepark.com

Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Silo B&B - guest accommodations 413-528-5195

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B

1 Prospect Lake Road

413-528-2882

www.innsweetwater.com

The Egremont Village Inn - Lodging

413-528-9580

John Andrewsø Restaurant - Restaurant 413-528-3469

Swiss Hutte Country Inn and Restaurant-Restaurant & Lodging

413-528-6200

www.swisshutte.com

Robinøs Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.

Robin Walther

116 Egremont Plain Road

413-528-2537

robinschaircaning@gmail.com

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Night of Goblins By Stanley Farnum

Is there a watcher in the night
That shades my faltering way?
Do I dream the white robes figures there,
Where deepening shadows play?

What lurks beyond the half closed door And whispers half heard sound? What beckons there with misted hand And turns me sharp around?

To try and catch the darkling thing That crouches waiting there, Perhaps to spring in manic rage From out its fearsome lair.

Oh joy, from out the dark
Upon the lonely street,
Some laughing voices free my soul,
"Hey Mister, Trick or Treat!"



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